### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AMARILLO DIVISION

THU KAW,	<b>§</b>
	§
Plaintiff,	§
	§
V.	Š
	§ Civil Action No
TYSON FRESH MEATS, INC. and	Š
HNAIR LING,	Š
	§
Defendants.	§ JURY DEMANDED

# NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1446

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT:

Please take notice that Defendant Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc. ("Defendant" or "Tyson"), removes to this Court the state court action described herein.

## I. Background

- 1. On February 10, 2022, an action was commenced in the 251st District Court in and for Potter County, Texas, entitled *Thu Kaw v. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.*, as Cause No. 110829-C-CV (the "Original Action"). Defendant removed the Original Action to this Court on March 2, 2022, which was within the 30-day period stipulated by the rules. *See* Notice of Removal of Action under 28 U.S.C. § 1446, *Kaw v. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.*, 2:22-c-00033-Z [Doc. No. 1].
- 2. On March 7, 2022, Plaintiff voluntarily dismissed the Original Action without prejudice. *See* Plaintiff's Notice of Dismissal, *Kaw v. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.*, 2:22-c-00033-Z [Doc. No. 4].

- 3. On March 8, 2022, Plaintiff filed a new suit in the 181<sup>st</sup> District Court in and for Potter County entitled *Thu Kaw v. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc. and Ling Hnair* bearing Cause No. 110866-B-CV ("the Current Action").
- 4. In a brazen attempt to avoid the impact of Defendant's removal of the Original Action to this Court, Plaintiff added Ling Hnair, his supervisor, as defendant in the Current Action.
  - 5. Plaintiff has not yet served either Defendant in the Current Action.
- 6. This action is a civil action of which this Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 and is one which may be removed to this Court by Tyson pursuant to the provision of 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) and 28 U.S.C. § 1441 in that it is a civil action between citizens of different states, and the matter in controversy exceeds the sum of \$75,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs.
- 7. All pleadings, process, orders, and all other filings in the state court action are indexed and attached to this notice as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a). (Exhibits A-C).
- 8. Removal to this Court is proper irrespective of the presence of Hnair Ling as a named defendant pursuant to the doctrine of "snap removal." Tyson is a non-forum state-court defendant in the Current Action. Plaintiff has filed its suit in state court, but has not formally served either Defendant. *Serafini v. Sw. Airlines Co.*, 485 F. Supp. 3d 697, 700 (N.D. Tex. 2020) (ruling that snap removal allows a defendant to circumvent the forum-defendant rule by removing cases to federal court on diversity grounds before the plaintiff joins the forum-state defendant through service); see also Tex. Brine Co., L.L.C. v. Am. Arbitration Ass'n, Inc., 955 F.3d 482 (5th Cir. 2020) (holding that a diverse defendant may remove a case before the non-diverse defendant is served). Thus, even assuming Hnair Ling is a citizen of the State of Texas the Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332.

9. Defendant will promptly file a copy of this notice of removal with the clerk of the state court in which the action was filed.

## II. There is a complete diversity of citizenship between the Plaintiff and Defendants.

- 10. The Federal Rules provide that a defendant may remove any civil action filed in state court where there is complete diversity of citizenship between the defendants and the plaintiff. 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) and (b).
- 11. Complete diversity exists here because Defendant does not share the same state of residency and/or citizenship as Plaintiff. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).
- 12. Plaintiff is either a citizen of the state of Texas or a citizen of a foreign state who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence and is domiciled in the State of Texas. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1)-(2).
- 13. Defendant Hnair Ling's citizenship is disregarded because he has not yet been properly served. *Serafini*, 485 F. Supp. 3d at 700. On information and belief, Defendant Hnair Ling is either a citizen of the state of Texas or a citizen of a foreign state who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence and is domiciled in the State of Texas.
- 14. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with a principal place of business in Springdale, Arkansas. Thus, it is a citizen of Delaware and Arkansas. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(c)(1).

#### III. The amount in controversy is in excess of \$75,000.

15. Plaintiff's Original Petition states that the amount sought in this lawsuit is over \$1,000,000.00, which is in excess of \$75,000.00.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ C. Jason Fenton

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Counsel for Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that that on the 8th Day of March 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system. The following were served by the CM/ECF system and by email:

Blake A. Scott blake@deanboyd.com
Taylor L. Seaton taylor@deanboyd.com
Dean Boyd dean @deanboyd.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

/s/ C. Jason Fenton

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# **INDEX**

Exhibit	Description
Exhibit A	Cause No. 110866-B-CV; Thu Kaw v. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc. and Ling
	<i>Hnair</i> , in the 181 <sup>st</sup> District Court In and for Potter County, Texas;
	Plaintiff's Original Petition.
Exhibit B	Cause No. 110866-B-CV; Thu Kaw v. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc. and Ling
	<i>Hnair</i> , in the 181 <sup>st</sup> District Court In and for Potter County, Texas;
	Request for Issuance (Plaintiff's Original Petition) Ling Hnair.
Exhibit C	Cause No. 110866-B-CV; Thu Kaw v. Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc., and Ling
	<i>Hnair</i> , in the 181 <sup>st</sup> District Court In and for Potter County, Texas;
	Request for Issuance (Plaintiff's Original Petition) Tyson Fresh Meats,
	Inc.